

Attorney Docket: 030353
U.S. Application No. 10/720,587 Examiner SIKRI Art Unit 2109
Response to July 24, 2008 Final Office Action

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LISTING OF THE CLAIMS

[c01] (Previously Presented) A method of providing communications services, comprising:

receiving a request for communications service, the request for communications service originating from a client communications device associated with a user, the request for communications service requesting communications service from a service provider;

dynamically assessing in real-time an availability of i) a communications network operated by the service provider and ii) another communications network operated by a different service provider;

when a subcontracted processing service is required, interrogating the different service provider to fulfill the subcontracted processing service;

ascertaining a best-value scenario that maximizes profitability for the service provider, the best-value scenario comprising at least one of segmentation, dispersion, assemblage, and routing of electronic data to fulfill the request;

grouping together individual packets of data as a segment, each of the individual packets of data in the segment requiring the subcontracted processing service;

dispersing the segment to the different service provider for fulfillment of the subcontracted processing service;

receiving a result of the subcontracted processing service from the different service provider; and

providing the communications service to fulfill the request, the communications service provided according to the best-value scenario.

[c02] (Previously Presented) A method according to claim 1, further comprising determining a subcontracted color correction service is required for the individual packets, and wherein grouping together the individual packets comprises grouping together the individual packets requiring the subcontracted color correction service offered by the different

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service provider, and wherein receiving the result comprises receiving the result of the subcontracted color correction service.

- [c03] (Previously Presented) A method according to claim 1, further comprising assessing in real-time an availability of network routing in the another communications network operated by the different service provider.
- [c04] (Previously Presented) A method according to claim 1, further comprising subcontracting the subcontracted processing service to the different service provider.
- [c05] (Previously Presented) A method according to claim 1, wherein grouping together the individual packets comprises grouping together the individual packets that require a subcontracted scaling service offered by the different service provider, and wherein receiving the result comprises receiving the result of the subcontracted scaling service.
- [c06] (Previously Presented) A method according to claim 1, wherein ascertaining the best-value scenario comprises ascertaining a lowest-cost scenario for formatting the electronic data according to a characteristic of the client communications device.
- [c07] (Previously Presented) A method according to claim 1, wherein ascertaining the best-value scenario comprises ascertaining a lowest-cost scenario for providing the communications service.
- [c08] (Previously Presented) A method according to claim 1, further comprising accessing a Service Level Agreement defining parameters for the communications service requested by the user.
- [c09] (Previously Presented) A method according to claim 8, wherein ascertaining the best-value scenario comprises maximizing profitability for the service provider while satisfying the Service Level Agreement.

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[c10] (Previously Presented) A method according to claim 1, further comprising utilizing the another communications network operated by the different service provider to provide the communications service.

[c11] (Previously Presented) A method according to claim 1, further comprising:

sending a reservation to reserve a routing path, the reservation including an instruction to only accept the packets of data having recognized header information and packet content, the reservation specifying a window of time within which the packets of data must be received; and

when the packets of data arrive outside the window of time, then further comprising queuing the packets of data.

[c12] (Previously Presented) A method according to claim 1, wherein providing the communications service comprises utilizing at least one of i) a wireline network operated by the different service provider and ii) a wireless network operated by the different service provider.

[c13] (Previously Presented) A method according to claim 1, wherein providing the communications service comprises utilizing at least one of i) cellular network operated by the different service provider, ii) an I.E.E.E. 802 wireless network operated by the different service provider, iii) a radio frequency (RF) wireless network operated by the different service provider, iv) an Industrial, Scientific, and Medical (ISM) wireless network operated by the different service provider, v) an infrared (IR) wireless network operated by the different service provider, and vi) a wireless network operated by the different service provider using another portion of the electromagnetic spectrum.

[c14] (Previously Presented) A system for providing communications service, comprising:

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means for receiving a request for communications service, the request for communications service originating from a client communications device associated with a user, the request for communications service requesting communications service from a service provider;

means for dynamically assessing in real-time an availability of i) a communications network operated by the service provider and ii) another communications network operated by another service provider;

when a processing service is required, means for interrogating the another service provider to fulfill the processing service;

means for ascertaining a best-value scenario that maximizes profitability for the service provider, the best-value scenario comprising at least one of segmentation, dispersion, assemblage, and routing of electronic data to fulfill the request;

means for grouping together individual packets of data as a segment, each of the individual packets of data in the segment requiring the processing service;

means for dispersing the segment to the another service provider for fulfillment of the processing service;

means for receiving a result of the processing service from the another service provider; and

means for providing the communications service to fulfill the request, the communications service provided according to the best-value scenario.

[c15] (Previously Presented) A computer program product comprising a computer readable medium storing processor-executable instructions for performing a method, the method comprising:

receiving a request for communications service, the request for communications service originating from a client communications device associated with a user, the request for communications service requesting communications service from a service provider;

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dynamically assessing in real-time an availability of i) a communications network operated by the service provider and ii) another communications network operated by another service provider;

when a processing service is required, interrogating the another service provider to fulfill the processing service;

ascertaining a best-value scenario that maximizes profitability for the service provider, the best-value scenario comprising at least one of segmentation, dispersion, assemblage, and routing of electronic data to fulfill the request;

grouping together individual packets of data as a segment, each of the individual packets of data in the segment requiring the processing service;

dispersing the segment to the another service provider for fulfillment of the processing service;

receiving a result of the processing service from the another service provider; and

providing the communications service to fulfill the request, the communications service provided according to the best-value scenario.

[c16] (Previously Presented) The system according to claim 14, further comprising means for grouping together the individual packets requiring a color correction service offered by the another service provider, and means for receiving the result of the color correction service.

[c17] (Previously Presented) The system according to claim 14, further comprising means for subcontracting the processing service to the another service provider.

[c18] (Previously Presented) The system according to claim 14, further comprising means for grouping together the individual packets that require a scaling service offered by the another service provider, and means for receiving the result of the scaling service.

[c19] (Previously Presented) The computer program product according to claim 15, further comprising instructions for grouping together the individual packets requiring a color

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correction service offered by the another service provider, and instructions for receiving the result of the color correction service.

[c20] (Previously Presented) The computer program product according to claim 15, further comprising instructions for subcontracting the processing service to the another service provider.